

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

January 12, 2020

eight forty-five o'clock
eleven o'clock

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of grace and glory, you call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers

PRELUDE - "Theme and Variations in D Major".....Felix Mendelssohn
The service of worship begins with the music of the organ. Through its power and brilliance may you feel the majesty and glory of God; in its quietness, His peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Dr. Carl

INTROIT - "O praise God"George Thalben-Ball
O praise God in his holiness; praise him in the firmament of his power.

*HYMN 396 - "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship".....HOLY MANNA

CALL TO WORSHIP..... Rev. Seamon

Minister: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

All: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"

Minister: Bless our God, O people; let the sound of praise be heard.

All: God has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

Minister: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

All: We went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

Minister: Truly God has listened, and given heed to the words of our prayer.

All: Blessed be the Lord, because God has not removed steadfast love from us.

Minister: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God forever!

Psalm 66, adapted

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Gracious God, we have entered the season in which your Light has been given to the world, and yet we continue to live in darkness. We remain consumed with our own problems, our own needs, and our own desires. We have ignored your Truth in the person of Christ, following instead the idols and deceptions of this world. We have not trusted that yours is the power to redeem, and we have not looked for your goodness in unexpected places. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, and wash away our self-pity and pride. Bestow upon us again your Spirit of hope, and give us faith to trust you in all things, that we might show forth the light of your love in all times and places. Through Christ our Lord, we pray, amen.

A period of silence for personal confession.

KYRIE ELEISON

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Minister: Let us stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.
Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you."

* GLORIA PATRI (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 581)

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Genesis 45:1-9 (Pew Bible, p. OT42)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM - "Love Bade Me Welcome"David Hurd

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, guiltie of dust and sinne. But quick-ey'd Love observing me grow slack from my first entrance in, drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning, if I lacked anything. A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here: Love said, You shall be he. I, the unkinde, ungratefull? Ah, my deare, I cannot look on thee. Love took my hand and smiling did reply, Who made the eyes but I? Truth, Lord but I have marr'd them: let my shame go where it doth deserve. And know you not, sayes Love, who bore the blame? My deare, then I will serve. You must sit down, sayes Love, and taste my meat: so I did sit and eat.

SECOND LESSON - Romans 5:1-5; Philippians 1:12-14

(Pew Bible, p. NT155, 196)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

* HYMN 829 - "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" OLIVET
During the singing of this hymn, children, kindergarten and younger, may follow the acolyte down the center aisle to the Ground Floor for worship care.

SERMON - WHEN THE BAD IN OUR LIVES IS TURNED TO GOOD.....
Dr. Carl

The Response to the Word

* APOSTLES' CREED Rev. Clayton
I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

- * The Offertory Statement
- * The Doxology (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 606).....
OLD HUNDREDTH

* The Prayer of Dedication
The Offertory Anthem – "Listen, Sweet Dove" Grayston Ives
Listen sweet dove unto my song, and spread thy golden wings in me; hatching my tender heart so long, till it get wing and flie away with thee. Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow that the earth did like a heaven appeare, the starres were coming down to know if they might mend their wages and serve here. The sunne which once did shine alone, hung down his head and wisht for night. When he beheld twelve sunnes for one going about the world and giving light. Lord though we change thou art the same, the same sweet God of love and light: Restore this day for thy great name, unto his ancient and miraculous right.
George Herbert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done; On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts; As we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The Sending

*HYMN 353 - "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"..... SOLID ROCK

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

*POSTLUDE - "Cantique"..... Theodore Dubois

**Congregation standing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OF TODAY'S VISITORS! We would love to welcome you to our family of faith at IPC. Please provide contact information on the Worship Register. We hope you will visit the Welcome Table in the Parlor after the service where our Welcome Team is eager to meet you over refreshments and share more information about life at IPC and church membership. Contact Cindy Shaw at 933-3696 or cshaw@ipc-usa.org.

THE FLOWERS in the chancel today are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of E. T. and Clara Brown. THE ROSE in the Children's Chapel is given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the birth on October 22, 2019, of James Walter Lester, son of Sara Anne Lester and Jay Lester, brother of Jackson Lester. THE FLOWERS on the War Memorial are given to the Glory of God and in honor of all past and present military personnel.

A SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE for all ages continues this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. in Highland Hall. Rev. Brian Lays is preaching. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated. Nursery care will be available.

100% CHANCE OF RAIN will be our Spring Children's Musical this year. Rehearsals began on January 8 and continue on Wednesday nights from 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in Room 111. (A dinner option available for those who want to drop-off at 5:30 p.m.) The performance is Sunday, March 15, and the cost is \$20.00 per child with an additional cost for dinner if desired. All K-6th graders are encouraged to attend.

HOME FOR FAITH, a study group for young mothers, will begin Monday, January 13, and continue through Monday, March 16, from 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. in Room 101. We will be reading *Liturgy of the Ordinary, Sacred Practices in Everyday Life* by Tish Harrison Warren. Childcare is available. Childcare is available. Come and bring a friend!

REGISTRATION FOR THE IPC DAY SCHOOL 2020- 2021 school year will be Monday, January 13 - Friday, January 17. The registration form will be available January 13 on the Day School website, <http://www.ipcdayschool.org>. No early registrations will be accepted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

REGISTER FOR THE PW WOMEN'S RETREAT: Ladies are invited to The Clubhouse on Highland for dinner, fun, and fellowship on Friday, January 24, at 6:30 p.m. The Rev. Mary Bea Sullivan of St. Luke's Episcopal Church will lead a workshop in Highland Hall on Saturday, January 25, from 8:30 a.m.- 12 p.m. to help prepare our hearts for a Holy Lent. Cost: \$25 for Friday, \$20 for Saturday, or \$45 for both events. Register at <https://ipc-usa.org/connect/calendar.html>

OUR IPC 101 CLASS FOR NEW AND POTENTIAL MEMBERS continues January 26 and February 2 at 10 a.m. in the Room 218. These sessions explore the various ministries within the church, our participation in local and global missions, and what it means to be Presbyterian. We will accept new members on February 9. If you have questions, please contact Cindy Shaw at 933-3694 or cshaw@ipc-usa.org.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

CHILDREN'S FRESH AIR FARM: In honor of Carolyn Featheringill and Liz Pharo.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES: In memory of Fred & LaDonna Kusta.

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mr. Robert "Joe" Henderson. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds and Mrs. Marjorie M. "Marge" Ogard.

Participants in Today's Services

Dr. William J. Carl III, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Brian J. Lays, Associate Pastor, Congregational Ministries
The Rev. Lucy E. Turner, Executive Associate Pastor
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir
Acolytes: (8:45 a.m.) Zoe Dunham Browning, Ernest Hugh Cowart,
Sarah Elizabeth Cowart
(11:00 a.m.) Thomas Christian Fischer, Lewis Christian Fischer,
Hardwick Parks Walthall

Independent Presbyterian Church
3100 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, Alabama 35205-1408
Phone: (205)933-1830; Fax: (205)933-1836
Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday
This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)
www.ipc-usa.org